



PRINCIPALS' QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

2002-2003 School Profile

Arboga Elementary

MARYSVILLE JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

<http://www.mjusd.k12.ca.us/index.htm>

Kathy Woods, Principal, 1997-2003

Presented at the October 2003

Principals' Roundtable Webcast

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Northern California, Rural, K-5, 186 students

Percent Free/Reduced Lunch: 59%

English Learners: 7%

Demographics:

American Indian/Alaska Native 7%

Asian 4%

Pacific Islander 0%

Filipino 1%

Hispanic/Latino 25%

African American 3%

White (not Hispanic) 60%



Year	API Score
2003	717
2002	705
2001	644
2000	602
1999	524

[more API info](#)

Special Recognition

- Title I Achieving School 2003
- *Educator Who Makes a Difference* award from Yuba County Superintendent of Schools
- *Administrator of the Year* from ACSA, Region 2

Central Focuses of School Reform:

- Initially, though the teachers were highly skilled and there was no shortage of resources, teaching and instructional materials were not aligned with the standards. The school now has a standards-based curriculum with embedded assessment.
- Assessment tests are administered to students to determine if they are meeting or exceeding grade level standards. Instructional strategies and techniques are modified to provide interventions for students achieving below grade level.
- The principal worked to instill in the staff a common vision and a "no excuses" philosophy that focuses on the standards. She then proceeded to lead the staff to internalize the belief that "all students can and will learn."

Additional Information:

- The principal believes that the primary role of a principal is “to be the ‘keeper’ of the vision, working with all the stakeholders to ensure that all the school’s components, including curriculum, assessment, interventions, budget, school plan, staff development, etc., are aligned and support the school vision.”
- The entire staff collaborated to develop a site plan that focused on defining core beliefs and purpose and establishing goals for all stakeholders. Along with the site plan, the staff designed the site budget aligning resources to support the goals of the plan, all of which focus on increasing the achievement of all students.
- The principal works to keep both staff and student motivation high. One technique she uses to build staff motivation is to share literature that illustrates the importance of teachers’ work and the impact their work has on children’s lives. For students, one technique the principal developed is the use of “dream boards” to empower students. Students create “dream boards” in order to conceptualize and outline their goals and dreams.

Research/Resources:

- *Impact of Effective Teachers*. Compiled by California School Leadership Academy.
- Payne, Ruby K., *Framework for Understanding Poverty*. 1998.
- Ali, Russlynn and Jerald D. Crag. *Dispelling the Myth in California: Preliminary Findings From a State and Nationwide Analysis of “High Flying” Schools*. (Education Trust, 1999) at <http://www2.edtrust.org/edtrust>
- Fish Philosophy at <http://www.fishphilosophy.com>

Web Links:

- [School Site Web Page](#)
- [School Site API Data](#)
- [School Site CBEDS Data](#)